



# SOCER ACTION

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# CHINA IS TEST FOR 1981

By LAURIE SCHWAB

**Do our new Socceroos have what it takes to stand up to the grind of overseas touring? Will they buckle and crack under tension? Can they stand opposition from partisan crowds?**

In short — are they made of the stuff required from World Cup warriors?

If they do not have the same strength of character as our tourists of 1967 and 1973-74, they will find the going tough in China.

Lack of maturity may also go against the squad. Nine of them are in their very early twenties or teens. Twenty have not been on an extended tour before.

Coach Rudi Gutendorf will know on their return from China which players are World Cup material and which are not.

"I am committed to none of them. Those who fall me will be thrown out, but those who give everything will get my utter loyalty in return," he said this week.

"They will be my World Cup fighters in 1981."

He added he wants only players willing to make painful sacrifices to achieve success. "Anyone who is half-hearted has no place in my squad," he said.

Gutendorf tried to have Newcastle's Arno Bertogna excluded last week because Bertogna failed to attend a hurriedly-organised training session in Sydney.

The Australian Soccer Federation overruled him.

Gutendorf said at the time: "If Sepp Herberger (former West German national coach) had called me into his squad when I was a boy, I would have walked 100 km for the honor."

"I admired the attitude of Tony Henderson. The



Arno Bertogna

doctor gave him time off from training because of a slight injury, but he came down anyway to be with the boys and to do light jogging."

**HENDERSON, JIMMY**  
Rooney, Jim Tansey and Ivo Prskalo will be the key players on the tour due to their great experience.

They will guide Australia through at least five games in China — in Peking, Shanghai and Canton.

Possible games in Hong Kong and Indonesia were being negotiated as the Socceroos left yesterday (Tuesday).

No Australian squad has been as well endowed with talented forwards as this one.

Mark Jankovics, Gary Cole, Eddie Krncevic, Phil O'Connor, Peter Sharne, and John Nyskohus are an extraordinary contingent. There is such strength in attack that the brilliant Ken Boden has been moved back into midfield.

"The Australian Soccer Federation overruled him.

Greg Woodhouse and Martyn Crook are an excellent pair of goalkeepers and the defence also looks sound, but the midfield is a little thin.

In fact, Jimmy Rooney and John Coyne are the only recognised midfielders in the squad. Of the others who can play in midfield, Bertogna and Henderson are defenders, Krncevic a forward and Joe Senkalski has yet to establish himself at this level.

But even the most inexperienced players should rise to new heights when they don the green and gold on tour. The Australian shirt always has had that effect.

The touring squad is:

**Goalkeepers:** Martyn Crook (West Adelaide), Greg Woodhouse (APIA).

**Defenders:** Kevin Mullen (Sydney City), Ivo Prskalo, Tony Henderson (Marconi), Jim Tansey (Heidelberg), Steve Perry (Brisbane City), Arno Bertogna (Newcastle KB Utd), Bobby Russell (Adelaide City).

**Midfielders:** Jimmy Rooney (Heidelberg, cpt), John Coyne (Brisbane City), Joe Senkalski, Ken Boden (Newcastle KB).

**Forwards:** Mark Jankovics, Peter Sharne, Eddie Krncevic (Marconi), Gary Cole (Heidelberg), Tommy Cumming (Essendon Croatia), John Nyskohus (Adelaide City), Phil O'Connor (St. George).

The tournament for Macedonian-backed teams will be run over two days (November 10, 11) at Preston's B.T. Connor Reserve, Reservoir.

Twelve teams will compete for the trophy and \$1,000 in prize money, with the winner earning \$500, runner-up \$250, third \$150 and fourth \$100.

Last year, the Macedonia Cup attracted about a dozen Melbourne-based Macedonian clubs. The popularity of the com-

## Marconi scoops the pool



As had been expected, Marconi scooped the pool of prizes at the Australian Soccer Press Association presentation night in Adelaide last week.

Ivo Prskalo was named Player of the Year, Eddie Krncevic Best Under 21 Player and Les Scheinflug Coach of the Year.

Pictured from left: Krncevic, Scheinflug, Prskalo and Mark Jankovics and Peter Sharne who were named in the ASA Team of the Year. Picture by LES SHOR-ROCK.

## See you next year

This is "Soccer Action's" last issue of 1979. We will be back in time for the Ampol Cup competitions in late January, 1980.

"Soccer Action's" fourth year has been our best yet. For this we thank our many readers, our loyal advertisers and our correspondents and photographers throughout Australia.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year to you all.

## Newcastle, Wollongong in Makedonia Cup

Teams from Newcastle, Geelong, Wollongong and Shepparton will travel to Melbourne to play in the 1979 Makedonia Cup.

The tournament for Macedonian-backed teams will be run over two days (November 10, 11) at Preston's B.T. Connor Reserve, Reservoir.

Twelve teams will compete for the trophy and \$1,000 in prize money, with the winner earning \$500, runner-up \$250, third \$150 and fourth \$100.

Last year, the Macedonia Cup attracted about a dozen Melbourne-based Macedonian clubs. The popularity of the com-

petition can be judged by the distances the teams are willing to travel to play in this year's event.

Coming from interstate are Wollongong Utd and Newcastle Red Star, Geelong West and Shepparton Lemnos will represent the large Victorian rural cities.

The action starts on Saturday (November 10) with four elimination matches involving teams in the bottom half of the seeded draw.

The games scheduled for Saturday are: 12.45 pm Geelong West v Central Altona 2 pm Shepparton

Lemnos v Central Altona 3.30 pm Mekor Holdings v Illawarra 4.30 pm Makedonia 'B' v Vardar Footscray.

The winners of each elimination game will progress to the first main round, which starts on Sunday morning. The first round games on Sunday are: (1) 10.45 pm Makedonia 'A' v Geelong or Central (2) 12 noon Newcastle Red Star v Makedonia 'B' or Vardar (3) 1.15 pm Wollongong Utd v Mekor or Illawarra (4) 2.30 pm Keilor City v Lemnos or Pascoe Vale.

The winners of the first

round games will progress to the semi finals listed for Sunday afternoon. The draw for the semi finals is: winner (1) v winner (3) and winner (2) v winner (4).

The final of the Makedonia Cup will kick off at 6.15 pm.

The rules of the competition are basically the same as normal competition soccer. Each team consists of 11 players and the games are 35 minutes each way.

The tournament organiser is Preston Makedonia soccer club. — KYLE PATTERSON

## Vardar, Zagreb in December

Dinamo Zagreb and Vardar Skopje will visit Australia in December, while "Soccer Action" is in recess.

The tours were announced in "Soccer Action" some weeks ago, but itineraries are not yet finalised.

Zagreb will play its first match against Victoria at Olympic Park on Sunday, December 9.

It will play probably

Adelaide the following Wednesday and against NSW in Sydney on Sunday, December 16.

All that is known about Vardar is that the team will be here some time in December.

Vardar impressed on an

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The 1979 Coach of the Year, Les Scheinflug of Marconi. Previous winners were Gerry Chaldi of Sydney City last year and Rale Rasic, then of Marconi, in 1977.

## Team of the year

The ASPA all-star team of the year is:

**Greg  
WOODHOUSE  
(APIA)**

**Steve  
PERRY  
(Brisb. C.)**

**Ivo  
PRSKALO  
(Marconi)**

**Jim  
HERMISTON  
(Brisb. Lions)**

**Jim  
TANSEY  
(Heidelberg)**

**Peter  
BOYLE  
(W. Adelaide)**

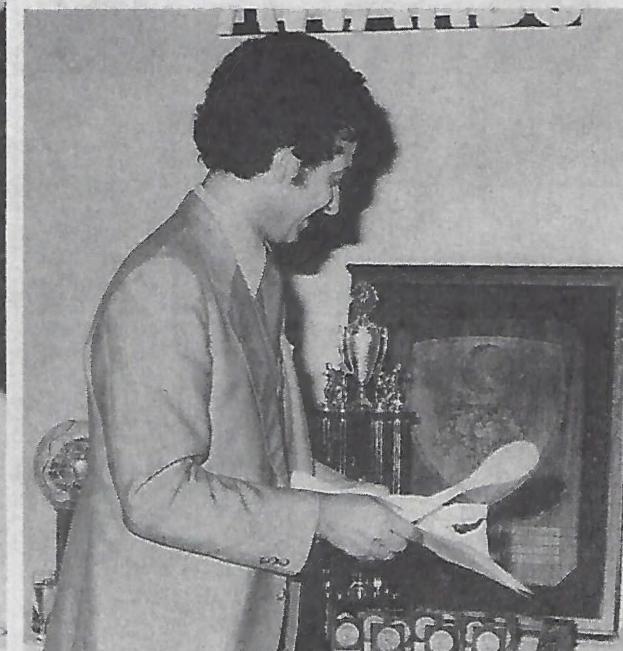
**Tony  
HENDERSON  
(Marconi)**

**Jimmy  
ROONEY  
(Heidelberg)**

**Eddie  
KRNEVIC  
(Marconi)**

**Mark  
JANKOVICS  
(Marconi)**

**Peter  
SHARNE  
(Marconi)**



Philips League chairman Sam Papasavas with the wooden spoon presented to his club, South Melbourne, for finishing last.



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Marconi president Tony Labbozzetta (left) and Les Scheinflug with the Philips League championship shield.



Adelaide City president Charlie Caruso with the Philips Cup, won by his club when it beat

## SOCcer ACTION

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EDITOR: Laurie Schwab.

MANAGING EDITOR: Leonard J. Shaw.

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Bill Vojtek.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Sam Belforte.

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Eddie Krnecvic accepts the Best Under-21 Player trophy from journalist Alan Crisp of the Adelaide "Advertiser".

## PRSKALO CAPS GREAT SEASON

It's been some year for Ivo Prskalo! At an age when most players think about retiring, Prskalo, 32, has had a new lease of life.

He was the rock on which Marconi built its championship success.

When the Socceroos needed a leader for their defence, they turned to Prskalo.

Then, he won the "Soccer Action" — Yugoslav Airlines Player of the Year award.

And now, he has been named Player of the Year by the Australian Soccer Press Association (ASPA).

The former Velez Mostar star who played for many years in the Yugoslav First Division, received his award at the ASPA presentation

night at Adelaide's Oberoi Hotel last Thursday.

To cap his extraordinary season, Prskalo left with the Socceroos yesterday (Tuesday) on their tour of China.

Also in the party is his Marconi team mate Eddie Krnecvic who was named Best Under-21 Player of 1979.

Krnecvic joined Marconi from Essendon Croatia early this year and is reported to be eager to return to Melbourne for next season.

Les Scheinflug was rewarded for his efforts in guiding Marconi to the championship by being named 1979 Coach of the Year.

Scheinflug was rewarded for his efforts in guiding Marconi to the championship by being named 1979 Coach of the Year.

Scheinflug, who captained Australia in its 1965 World Cup campaign, was player-coach in 1969 when Marconi won its last championship. In between, he coached Brisbane Lions, Sydney Croatia, Western Suburbs and Adelaide City among others.

Tony Boskovic of NSW was named Referee of the Year. Boskovic, who refereed in West Germany during the 1974 World Cup finals, is only the second winner of the award.

There was no such award at the inaugural presentation night in 1977. Peter Ramplay of NSW won it in 1978.

The 1980 presentations will be in Brisbane. A new voting system will see 3-2-1 votes cast after each match. Until now, all voting has been done at the end of the season.



Referee of the Year Tony Boskovic (right), with Terry Seacey of Dunlop, which sponsored the award.



Ivo Prskalo, 1979 Player of the Year. Previous winners were Ken Boden of Newcastle KB United last year and Jimmy Rooney, then of Marconi, in 1977.

An advertisement for Uhlsport goalkeeping gloves. It features a black and white photo of Dino Zoff, a man in a soccer uniform, standing behind a net. To his right is the Uhlsport logo, which consists of a stylized 'U' shape above the word "uhlsport". Below the logo is a large, close-up photo of a woman's face. She is holding a pair of large, white, fingerless gloves in front of her chest. The gloves have a dark wristband and a small circular emblem on the back of one hand.

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• Frank Pangallo talked to two players in the Socceroo squad for the tour of Asia. He discovered that one player was disappointed he wasn't selected in the team earlier, while the other didn't expect to be selected at all.

# Russell to put country before the Cosmos?

Adelaide City's brilliant defender Bobby Russell is sitting on top of the world at the moment . . . and it's going to take some doing to get him off!

The amiable Scot not only won selection in the Australian squad which leaves for Asia this week but has also received an open invitation to trial with the famed New York Cosmos.

Cosmos mentor Professor Julio Mazzel paid Russell a major compliment by stating to Pressmen after the Cosmos had beaten Adelaide City 2-0 last weekend that Russell was by far the best Australian player he'd seen on the three-match tour.

"I was most impressed with his work in the defence and the way he shut Glorgio (Chinaglia) out of the game. I'd welcome him," he said.

"I said before the tour that we were on the lookout for Australian players in our team — we don't have any — and Russell is the type we're looking for."

Russell's future could be decided later this month when City coach Rale Basic heads for New York for a three-week intensive study program with the Cosmos.

"I'm a businessman first but who could deny a player the chance of being in the same team as Beckenbauer, Neeskens, Alberto and Tuaert," Basic said.

"I think it's the ultimate compliment for a player to be asked to join the Cosmos. They're the best in the world."

The past season isn't one Russell is likely to forget for sometime.

After a relatively low-key stint with Sydney Croatia, Basic snapped Russell for City this season. Yet it wasn't until mid-way through the season that Russell exploded onto the scene and won the admiration of both Basic and City's legion of supporters.

Russell forced his way into the side as a full-back but before he could entrench himself in what is a very competitive squad, a shoulder injury against Marconi seemingly shattered his hopes.

When Russell recovered, he had no option but was to remain on the sidelines as City went through nine of their following 10 matches unbeaten.

Russell's humor was such that he often joked about getting blisters sitting on the bench so often. There was even a time when Basic summoned Russell to warm up along the sidelines . . . he dutifully did so for 15 minutes and still didn't get a run!

Undaunted, Russell never lost his confidence. On the training track, his contribution was never in question. Bursting to make his way back into the team, he trained twice-daily in his own time.

After almost 14 weeks in the role of bench warmer, he got his chance through an injury to former Scottish professional Jim Muir.

While he had never played anywhere else but full-back, Russell was assigned the task of playing stopper against the delicate ball skills of Newcastle's Ken Boden.

Russell outclassed Boden with an impressive display of physical aggression and powerful aerial ability — something which belies his rather shortish frame.

It wasn't surprising that Russell became an automatic selection from that point and has not blemished the trust and confidence Basic has shown in him.

Perhaps Russell's influence could be partly attributed to City's tremendous defensive record last season. In all, only 27 goals were conceded — the lowest in the PSL.

Russell started his playing career in Scotland with the Glasgow Celtic Boys Club and from there moved to Portsmouth in England where he stayed for a couple of months before deciding he wanted to see the world. He made his way to New Zealand and his playing career resumed once again. After a couple of seasons, he crossed the Tasman to try his luck in Sydney with Croatia.

Russell has harbored a burning desire to play for the Socceroos and set the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain as his target.

Despite his remarkable consistency late in the season, Russell admitted he was shocked at his selection in the Australian squad.

After questioning the validity of Basic's good tidings two or three times, the chirpy Russell slumped back in a chair and a characteristic grin broke across his face: "Oh, boss . . . it's just magic!"

He clearly recalls the moment Rudi Gutendorf



New Socceroo defender Bobby Russell.

indicated him to shed his track suit and warm-up to take the field against Cosmos in Sydney.

With a crowd in excess of 50,000 around him, Russell's legs became "rubbery."

"It was something I had never experienced before. It was the biggest crowd I had ever faced and I was nervous," Russell recalled.

"It was completely different after I'd settled down. I knew this was my chance and I didn't want to blow it."

"I think the most important thing in football to play for your country and I've always had my heart set on playing for Australia."

"I guess I'll never forget my first appearance. You never think you'll get the chance to come up against players you idolised. Pure magic."

Russell's modesty is something else. After his fine display in the Cosmos match against City, he personally felt his game could have been better.

"Sure, I've got a lot to learn," he says frankly. "All I know is that when I'm out there, I try and give everything I've got."

Russell's solid-as-a-brick-wall image isn't characteristic of his temperament. In fact he's proud of his record of never being sent off the field or suspended.

He attributes his strong self-discipline to the fact that he plays the game for enjoyment and a sense of competitiveness.

Russell puts it this way: "I respect myself. I would not go kicking or punching anyone else."

If they kick or punch me that's OK., but they're only degrading themselves. You can earn more respect by acting like a professional."

Nobody can deny Russell has got what it takes to play at international level.

The spell has already been cast and the magic is beginning to work for him. For Bobby Russell, success is there for the taking.



Martyn Crook leaps above West Adelaide team mate Con Kambas (partly hidden) and Pat Bannon of Heidelberg to punch clear. No. 3 West's Barry Reynolds and right is Brank Buljevic.

## Woodhouse a setback to my plans: Crook

In many people's eyes, it would have been a complete injustice had Martyn Crook missed selection in the Australian squad to tour Asia.

In three Philips League seasons with West Adelaide, Crook has established himself as one of the finest goalkeepers produced in this country.

Despite Wests' inability to successfully defend its championship in 1979, Crook's form between the posts was outstanding.

His snake-like reflexes and cunning perception made him the scourge of strikers who helplessly watched him do the impossible.

Crook, 22, has been the focal point of West Adelaide since he joined the club from State League side Para Hills four years ago.

He was in brilliant touch through the 1978 season and although he was freely tipped to make his way into the Socceroo squad, Rudi Gutendorf has only recently given him the chance to show his worth.

Although Crook admits he was frustrated at not making the Socceroos last year, he thought he'd eventually get his chance if he kept "plugging away."

"I thought my form was good enough in 1978 to be given a chance and I was a little disappointed at being overlooked," Crook said.

"I knew if I kept plugging away I'd get there but then Greg Woodhouse came along and I've had to start all over again.

"I'm happy I've got the chance now and I guess I've got something to prove."

Crook had an indifferent start to the 1979 season and prefers to forget a few of those opening matches.

However he believes his last eight or so games of last season were as good as he has ever played.

Indeed, in those bone-crunching derbies against Adelaide City Crook's uncanny aerobatics made Dixie Deans and Socceroo team-mate John Nyskohus shake their heads in disbelief as what appeared to be open goals vanished in thin air!

Crook began his soccer career with Para Hills as a youngster, playing at left half!

As Crook recalls, it wasn't until he saved a penalty at training that his coach decided he'd make a good goalkeeper.

Crook himself can't explain his natural



Martyn Crook, the weekend acrobat and Australia's new goalkeeper.

goalkeeping talent.

"I guess it is just one of those things you do," he says nonchalantly.

"You can't coach a goalkeeper to be good. I think natural ability comes first and coaching second," he explains.

"I've never really been coached in the art of goalkeeping. A lot is self-taught."

"Even now I don't think I get as much training in goalkeeping as I should."

Crook headed for the UK two years ago to trial with Middlesborough, but was disenchanted and decided to return to Adelaide where he was building a house and about to open a sporting goods store.

"At the time I thought my future remained in Australia," said Crook.

"I don't know whether I'd want to play overseas. I'd prefer to build my future in Australia."

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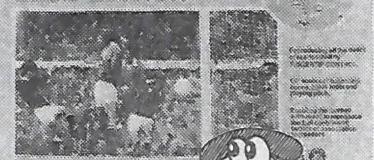
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**One of the real success stories in Australian Soccer has been Newcastle KB United's entry to the Philips Soccer League of Australia.**

**In just two years since the club was granted entry, Newcastle United has captured the imagination of soccer enthusiasts around the country.**

**KB United's coach, Alan Vest, speaks about some of the early problems, the triumphs and the hopes of the club in this exclusive interview with NBN television soccer commentator, DAVID FORDHAM.**

# ALAN VEST: PSL TITLE OUR AIM

**Q.** Alan, considering this time two years ago the Squad was not even assembled, you must be very pleased with the progress the club has made in such a short time.

**A.** Yes, the club has made tremendous progress, David. We know we would have problems when we first started. We knew it was going to be a hard road, and I think we have overcome most of them and obviously the next aim is to make Newcastle a championship team.

**Q.** Looking back to those early days, there was a tremendous objection, particularly from the Melbourne clubs, to United's entry into the league. The A.S.F. with reason must be very pleased that they made the right decision to include a then "fledgling" club.

**A.** I think the main criticism was that we were not going to be able to pay enough money to attract players who could do well in the Philips League. Obviously we have dispelled those images, but it is a hard road and it's getting harder financially because we have to get better players and we have to try to keep our own players in line as far as we can with the payments of other players. You know in some cases, this is virtually impossible.

**Q.** From day one, despite a problem from day one, despite the sizeable sponsorship grant from Tooth & Co., but what was the club's initial outlay for the 1978 KB squad?

**A.** The initial outlay for the first year was around \$25,000 to \$26,000, which is not a lot of money by any club's standards.

In 1979, I had around \$10,000 to retain all the signed, plus get new players, which included air fares and their signing on fees. A lot of clubs

would spend a quarter of a million dollars to acquire their team for a season.

**Q.** In those early days there was the \$8000 transfer fee for Col Curran from Sydney's Western Suburbs, and that figure itself you regarded as quite an outlandish transfer fee, but no doubt the value of Col Curran to your team has more than paid its way.

**A.** Yes, promotionally and particularly this year, Col has had a very good season. My only argument is that I'm sure if we had left it another couple of weeks we could have got Col for half the price. Money was vital at that particular stage, but nevertheless, it's proved money well spent.

**Q.** You have always had the ultimate say as to signings, even though... but Curran's signing and also Joe Senkalski's later in the year from Sydney Olympic at a cost of around \$5000, were virtually "Director's signings". What are your thoughts on this?

**A.** Now, they're not really director's signings... If I had said that I didn't want either player, then neither player would have been at Newcastle United. There's no question about that. On both occasions, as you know, the club has given me the budget to sign players and I have got to sign full-blooded. At the stage of these signings, the financial position of the club was critical, and my job, I believe, is to "Balance the Books" as well as getting the team on the park.

Take the case of Kenny Boden. There's no question, I would like to have kept him, but I can see the need for selling him for the financial benefit of the club.

And that was my argument.

basically, about the signings of Curran and Senkalski.

There was no question about not wanting them, but I felt that both of them could have come our way for less money had we bid our time. If I hadn't wanted these players, there's no way they would have been at the club.

**Q.** You mentioned that for less than \$30,000 you assembled a squad of players who were virtually "unknowns" but they have certainly made their impact on Australian soccer. Players like Kenny Boden, Bill Summerscales and Roy Drinkwater in particular have proved that point.

**A.** With the new restrictions on visas if those restrictions had been on in 1978, there's no way those players would have been in Australia. I think it is a very sad state of affairs for the game.

**Q.** Looking at the Australian soccer scene since you made the move from New Zealand, there are certain "sickesses" about the game. Since the inception of the Philips League in 1977, there have been in excess of 50 changes employed by the 14 P.S.L. teams. What do you think the real problems are there?

**A.** There's only one problem, David, and that's the powers that be. The committees of the clubs appoint people and then don't give them the job to do. Newcastle has given me the job to do and if I fail, I'll be sacked... I appreciate that, as does every coach.

Even with the recent Kenny Boden transfer, I have never even spoken to the manager/committee of Sydney City, nor was the president who did the dealings there. We did the deal sealed it with written agreements by both clubs. But then the president of the club came back and wanted to rescind the deal and give me more money for the player instead of the previous agreement. It was simply because spectators had got onto some of the other committee members who in turn had got onto the president of the club.

**Q.** Looking back on year one, it was an instant success from the first day against the league champions Eastern Suburbs "Hakohah", when over 15,000 people flocked through the turnstiles. Did you or the club envisage the continued success story from that day?

**A.** No, I thought we would get a very good crowd for the first game. We were, now, in fact, the best thing for the City, but really, we were anticipating a three or four thousand crowd as an average, even with a mediocre team.

**2.** The performance on the

park in year one, despite the fact you finished eleventh in the League, still must have pleased you. You scored that historic win over Dudhoe, to become the first Australian club side to inflict a defeat on a top side from the U.K. and you also grabbed a place in the semi-finals of the Philips Cup. Were you satisfied with the performance of the team in that first year?

**A.** As I have said all along, the first year to me was not successful. If you analyse the record for last year and the league this year, we were four points from the top four last year. Now this year we finished sixth and the one below us was seven points from us.

So even in the first year we were there or thereabouts, and despite the team wasn't good enough. We know that!!! He was the real "general" of the midfield before injuring his tendon.

**A.** It was a big loss... probably any or somebody like him was just the player we needed. We have a lot of young lads and we needed that extra experience at that particular time. We had done well and really needed him. As you know, he never played for the club again this season, and that was a big blow.

**Q.** You have shown a willingness to experiment with players out of their normal positions, particularly when injuries have been a problem... players like John Seddon and Alan Bertoglio are basically defenders but were used regularly as midfield players with a degree of success. Has the versatility of the pool helped your campaign?

**A.** Yes, any player who can play in more than one position is a valuable asset to the club. If they are a "one position" player, then they are limited in what value they are to the team.

**A.** I think it has a big bearing on the team, but not as much as a lot of people imagine. Where I have played at places that have a big, big parochial support, it's made the play better myself. That of course is the opposition team, and I'm sure that it even helps when teams come to Newcastle, because when they come here they thrive on the atmosphere. Even if the crowd is boozing them, that stimulates them.

I know when I have been "away" at grounds in England, and the crowd has got onto me, that has stimulated me to do better than I have done before. But undeniably our boys thrive on the home crowd involvement.

**Q.** You are hell bent on improving your pool for 1980. There are a lot of players from other P.S.L. teams that have shown interest in joining your squad, but funds are still obviously a problem. Last year you returned to England to

2. The performance on the

sign new players, and some of these proved instant successes. One of them was Ian Seddon. How important a loss was he? He was the real "general" of the midfield before injuring his tendon.

**A.** It was a big loss... probably any or somebody like him was just the player we needed. We have a lot of young lads and we needed that extra experience at that particular time. We had done well and really needed him. As you know, he never played for the club again this season, and that was a big blow.

**Q.** You have shown a willingness to experiment with players out of their normal positions, particularly when injuries have been a problem... players like John Seddon and Alan Bertoglio are basically defenders but were used regularly as midfield players with a degree of success. Has the versatility of the pool helped your campaign?

**A.** Yes, any player who can play in more than one position is a valuable asset to the club. If they are a "one position" player, then they are limited in what value they are to the team.

**A.** As young Brett Cowburn said in an interview after a game, he had heard what position he played, so avoiding what he was in the team. I don't think it does a player any harm playing in different positions and getting different feeling of the opposition. I think if we can get more players who are flexible the game will benefit.

I take Holland for example, in the last World Cup. I think any of their players could play in any position... they were complete footballers.

**Q.** This town is in very much a parochial city, and the English import in the original squad was that they would not be accepted as Newcastle players. But now they have been accepted and you would think from the crowd reaction that Kenny Boden and Roy Drinkwater were Newcastle born and bred. In those early days, was there any animosity or

**Alan Vest — coach Newcastle KB United**

feeling in the squad between the English imports and the local players?

**A.** It was a problem and a hard one to overcome. There was no question about it. There was an Australian group and an English group and I think if there had been any criticism in the town, the Australian group would have been there and talking about that criticism. Last year they would have agreed with it.

Now this year, the reverse has happened... somebody said something about an English player to the local lads, and they would more likely end up with a "Glasgow kiss".

That's the situation at the moment, the spirit is sky high. You can ask any of the Aussies, and they would agree wholeheartedly with that.

**Q.** The success this year in reaching the semi-final of the cup again and narrowly missing out on the P.S.L. top four, shows that the club's performance has greatly improved, but you still have problems as far as the lineup is concerned, haven't you?

**A.** I think you always have problems as far as a team is concerned. Now, Marcon won the league this year but there's no doubt they will sign new players next year. It's rumoured they will sign Tommy Cumming, but where they are going to play him is another point.

Although they have a good side, they still strive to improve. Now we are no different. Our aim this year was to do better than in 1978 and for next year it's exactly the same. To do that, we have to get one or two better players.

**Q.** How severely will Kenny Boden's loss be felt by the club, with his transfer to Sydney City?

**A.** Well, obviously any player of Kenny's ability and calibre would be a loss to any club. But life goes on. Top players from clubs in other countries of the world leave and the club still goes well. Kevin Keegan went from Liverpool for a then record fee. He was their top player. But they put somebody else in and they were still the league champions. None of us are irreplaceable, but we are going to miss Kenny. He's done a wonderful job for Newcastle United.

**Q.** Alan, you have no doubt been sounded out by other P.S.L. clubs in Australia and from clubs outside Australia, and no doubt bigger financial rewards have been mentioned. Why then have you renewed your contract with KB United in 1980?

**A.** Well, the club has offered me a new contract. They wanted me to sign a two or

three year contract, but I declined to do that. I feel that after three years there has to be a re-assessment by the club and myself. But I have enjoyed it with Newcastle. I think we have achieved a lot and I would like to give it one more year and achieve the ultimate with the league championship in 1980, and given a little luck on closed season signings, I think we have got a big chance... And that's why I stayed with Newcastle.

**Q.** As far as new signings are concerned, have you any definite thoughts at this stage?

**A.** Hopefully, I will be signing a back four next week. He's an ex-England international who should improve our side greatly.

Another player I will be talking to is a midfield player who played for Ireland and another experienced player... and these are the players I want.

We have several up-and-coming young players and blended with that type of experience, we can have a top side. With the transfer of Kenny Boden we have secured Sydney City's Mark Treter and I will be looking to sign another striker as well.

**Q.** You mentioned your immediate aim is to win the league championship in 1980... but what are your long-term ambitions in football?

**A.** I think any coach's ambition would be to become the national coach... but I think that is a very remote possibility now. I see myself staying in Australia. I've had offers to try my hand in Scandinavia, but whether I eventually do that I don't know at this stage. I'll have to wait and see what happens next year.

My family in particular would rather stay in Australia, so it looks as though I'll spend the rest of my soccer career in Australia.

**Q.** Finally, in the three years you have been in Australia have you seen any dramatic improvement in our standards?

**A.** I think it has improved a lot and I think it will go on improving, providing people don't get too carried away.

We are trying to impress on the public that players are better than they are. Unfortunately, we seem a lot of young players by telling them they are superstars when obviously they are not. We've got a lot of potential but let's keep our feet on the ground. If we look anywhere in the world, at youth level, England in particular, very few make the grade.

I would say Australia is no different.

**Ken Boden (right) in action against Stuart Baxter of South Melbourne. Boden is joining Sydney City.**

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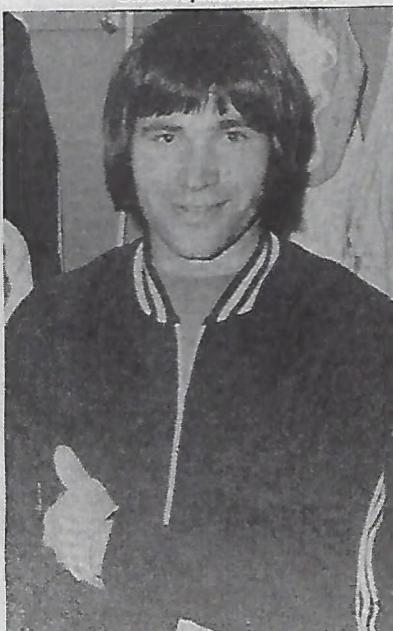
MANFRED KOSMOWSKI, 31, goalkeeper, one of the top keepers in Berlin, played 19 times for the West Berlin representative team.



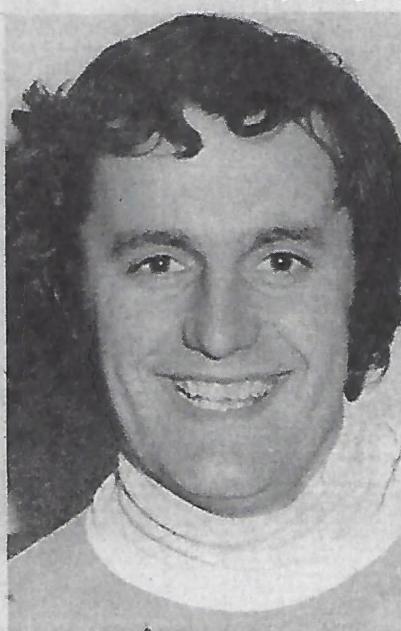
BERND WITTWER, 20, midfielder or forward, joined this year from Normania 08, described as the finest talent in Berlin soccer. Has scored five goals in Wacker's past six games.



PETER MIELKE, 28, libero or midfielder, captain, three years of Bundesliga experience, has had many games for the Berlin representative team.



Lou Kastner (left) of Makedonia, and Guenter Ganglmaier of Keilor Austria — they're in the all-star team to meet Wacker of West Berlin.



MICHAEL MUELLER, 35, mid-fielder and vice-captain, veteran of the team, whose brilliance and fine ball skill enables him to ward off challenges by younger men.

# All-star team to meet Germans

An all-star German-Austrian team has been formed to meet touring Wacker 04 of West Berlin in Melbourne on Saturday, January 5.

The match will be at Harricks Reserve, Kelly.

The all-stars basically are from Richmond and Keilor-Austria, with reinforcements from various other clubs.

The squad includes Mike Loh of Hakoah and goalkeeper Lou Kastner of Makedonia.

Others: Uli Pfisterer (ex-Juventus), Fred Beller (Ajax), Peter Kolland (St. Albans), Rob Gramsbergen (Altona), G. Torner and B. Torner (Ajax), Guenter Ganglmaier, Ray Beller, Rudi Schaeffner, Guenter Gerick, Chris Gerick, Gerry Altheim (Austria),

Peter Arentz, Alex Straubinger, Harry Muench, Manny Kuehn and Otti Damaschun (Richmond).

Former Austria coach Hans Feige is training the team. Gerd Steinborn is team manager.

They are looking for training games to prepare them for the match against Wacker. Clubs willing to play should call 366 2223.

Wacker will play in the Philippines on its way to Australia.

The team arrives in Melbourne on Thursday, January 3.

On the following day, it will meet a Geelong Combined Eleven in Geelong.

After playing against the Austria/Richmond all-stars on January 5, Wacker flies to Launceston for a match against Launceston Juventus. On January 7, the Germans will meet Rapid Wrest Point in Hobart.

On their way back home,

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REINER LIEDKE, 29, was offered \$150,000 to play for Bundesliga club Munich 1860. He is the star of Wacker 04. A mid-fielder or forward, he has four years of Bundesliga experience and has often

# SLICKERS SUPREME!

PSL Grand Final second leg:

**BRISBANE CITY 1**  
**SYDNEY CITY 1**

Sydney City wins 2-1 on aggregate

Scorers: BC - Kelso 78th, SC - Treinter 84th.

Ground: Perry Park.

Crowd: 4200.

Weather: Fine and sunny

Referee: Don Campbell 8.

Cautions: Kelso (BC), Coyne

(SC), Mullen (SC), O'Connor

(SC), M. Silva (SC).

Ratings:

**BRISBANE CITY** - Wels-

hort 8, Perry 9, Ratcliffe 9,

Echeverria 7, Wilkinson 7,

Gaffney 6, Pimblett 8, Coyne

6, Low 7, Campbell 7, Kelso 7.

Bruce Waddell



## Treinter the hero in farewell game

it changed its name from Sydney City - Clerke 10, Mullen 9, O'Connor 9, Thomas 9, Bruce 8, Stevenson 8, Barnes 7, Souness 7, Watson 8, Treinter 6, Campbell 6 (M. Silva 52nd min).

Sydney City - nicknamed the 'Slickers' after

Sydney City drew the second leg match 2-1 which was enough to secure the trophy after the club's 1-0 victory over Brisbane City in the first leg of the final in Sydney.

Sydney City won the PSL championship in 1977, the Grand Final in 1978 and completing the hat-trick with this season's Grand Final victory.

Ironically, Brisbane City

would have become the first club to win a trophy in each season if had defeated Sydney City. Brisbane City regularly played into his hands by pumping long balls onto the six yard line.

Brisbane City, although beaten in the two-leg final, thus re-affirmed its reputation of also being one of the most successful clubs since the PSL began.

The Brisbane team in fact went within six minutes of prolonging the final, when it led 1-0 with just period remaining.

Striker Mark Treinter, playing his last game for the Slickers before switching to Newcastle next season, went out in a blaze of glory by snatching an equaliser which in effect was the winner.

Midfielder John Stevenson attempted to bypass City keeper Kim Wishart with a chip shot, and it appeared to be travelling harmlessly out for a goal-kick.

But the ball lost momentum, and Treinter, who had done little also during the match, nipped in to shove his shot towards the goal.

It dropped just short and as David Ratcliffe and Wishart desperately tried to work the ball away from the danger zone, Treinter, who by now was on the ground, stuck his leg out and poked the ball home.

Brisbane City had scored its goal in the 78th minute, after long periods during which it threatened, but never seemed really capable of cracking the dedicated Sydney City defence.

Roberto Echeverria lost possession on the right, but Ratcliffe won it back and provided him with the chance to cross.

The best however, fell to Brisbane City, when Kelso hit the post in the 36th minute. Low made a burst down the left and passed to Bobby Campbell, who in turn fed Gaffney.

Gaffney's shot was partially blocked by Clarke, and as legs kicked wildly, Kelso had a shot which deflected off the left hand upright.

Brisbane City pummelled the Sydney defence for the first 15 minutes of the second half, and it was in this period that the home side really had to score to take command of the match.

Campbell and Kelso caused a good deal of havoc and from one move, Kelso dashed down the left and Campbell's first

time shot was deflected away by a diving Clarke, Kelso was a foot away from converting the chance.

Mullen pounced up the Sydney City attack with several forceful runs and one of

them ended when he was charged down by Echeverria, suspiciously close to the penalty mark.

Mullen broke again, crossed a good square ball, but substitute Marcos Silva and Treinter took far too long to make something out of it, and the defence came back quickly to cut them off.

A searching Pimblett break and cross had the Sydney City players had spells when they could not do a thing right, mainly in regard to their passing, but reliable were skipper Steve Perry, Ratcliffe and midfielder Frank Pimblett.

Overall, the match did not

provide a great spectacle fullbore.

There was too much tension, particularly in the first half and naturally a good deal of niggle, which generally was well handled by Adelaide referee Don Campbell.

As a result, there were not many clear-cut scoring chances in the first half.

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KEVIN MULLEN

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## Triumph for Gardiner

Victorian State League Cup final:

**CROATIA 2**  
**MAKEDONIA 1**

Scorers: Makedonia - Ward 8th, Croatia - Gardiner 43rd, Gildner 61st.

Ground: Olympic Park.

Crowd: Est. 6000.

Weather: Humid.

Referee: Chris Bambridge 6.

Cautions: Short (C), Blaiver

(C).

Ratings:

**ESSENDON CROATIA:** Blasby 6 - Short 8, Gardiner 9.5, Kokosa 5, Blaiver 7 - Adams 7, Andrews 7, Murphy 8 - Cumming 7.5, Gildner 8, Batinicic 6.

**PRESTON MAKEDONIA:** Kostner 6 - Petrovski 8, Higham 8, Garthwaite 6, Beach 6 - Flavell 8, Cunningham 5 (Rainey 73rd min), Faulkner 6.5 (Tuffield 73rd min) - Cullen 6, Lesbirel 7, WSard 6.

Preston Makedonia tried to buy John Gardiner early this season, but EsSENDON Croatia rejected the \$4000 offer.

Gardiner was later to spend several months out of soccer after Croatia placed him on the transfer list following a row with the club's administration.

But Gardiner reconciled with Croatia, which was just as anxious to end the dispute, and returned to the team he had built into a powerful competitor in 1978.

Last Sunday, Victorian State League Cup final proved Croatia's decision not to sell Gardiner to be a wonderful piece of foresight.

At the same time, Preston Makedonia must have felt sick to see Gardiner, the man it wanted for its team, inspiring and commanding Croatia to a powerful 2-1 Cup final victory over Preston.

Gardiner was the mind behind Croatia's dominance of the Victorian State League. The Cup victory on Sunday took to 10 the number of trophies Croatia has won in the past two seasons.

Most of the credit for the two championship, two State League Cup, Dockerty Cup and

By KYLE PATTERSON



Ampol Cup successes should go to Gardiner, the coach and on-field organiser.

Anyone who saw last Saturday's State League Cup final will at least vouch that Gardiner was the key figure in Croatia's most recent triumph.

He was superb at sweeper throughout the game, and formed a solid partnership with centre back Steve Kokosa. When Croatia fell behind, it was Gardiner who pushed forward into the midfield, searching for an opening.

His moves into attack paid dividends in the 43rd minute when he equalised for Croatia with a 30-metre shot.

In the second half, it was Gardiner who carved out the opening which won Croatia the game. He hit a great long ball for striker Tommy Cumming, and Preston's Ljubo Petrovski had to foul Cumming to stop the Croatia forward.

From the resultant free kick, from near the corner flag, Carl Gildner leaped above a ruck of players to head EsSENDON's 61st minute winner.

Gildner, incidentally, scored Croatia's winner in last season's State League Cup final against George Cross.

Although trailing after Preston's Gary Ward scored a goal in the eighth minute, Croatia was always the better team, and never looked in danger of losing the match.

Croatia had many fine players. Gardiner was best on the ground, with Kokosa not far behind. Gildner, Cumming, Ken Murphy and Steve Short stood and games, with the rest of the players in the team all contributing.

Preston was lacklustre. It defended for long periods with a blanket of players on the backline. The midfield was never creative, and the forwards found themselves stranded with no support.

John Higham and Ljubo Petrovski did well in defence, and Gordon Flavell at least

worried Croatia, albeit using niggling tactics and robust challenges.

Preston looked disorganized, and the team finds some of the team work shown by Croatia, it will remain a bridesmaid.

The Cup final was a torrid affair. Tempers frayed, and players got involved in off-ball pushing and shoving matches.

Preston got off to a great start when Ward scored in the eighth minute. Petrovski had hit a long cross from the right, and it may have presented no danger had not Croatia goalkeeper Peter Blasby rushed off his line to catch the ball.

Blasby committed himself, but was stranded as Ward nipped in to divert the ball into the net.

After that move, Preston hardly ventured near the Croatia goal. EsSENDON stormed into attack, with full backs Steve Short and Ante Blaiver charging down the wings.

Gardiner was supporting the attack from the sweeper position, and Croatia bombarded the Preston goal. Preston pulled eight players back into defence, and attempted to weather the storm.

The blanket defence smothered Cumming and Gildner, but Croatia was bound to score. The vital goal came when Murphy carried the ball wide, then slipped it to Cumming. He ran in-field and passed to Gardiner, whose first-time shot beat Kostner.

After the interval, Croatia changed its tactics slightly. Instead of racing headlong into attack to try and bust the Preston defensive wall, Croatia slowed the game up.

It kept possession in a bid to draw Preston out of defence and to create openings for the EsSENDON forwards.

Gardiner's goal forced Preston to take the initiative and attack Croatia in a bid to save the game. The team improved when Ian Tuffield and Mike Rainey replaced Stuart Cunningham and Jeff Faulkner, but not sufficiently to worry Croatia.

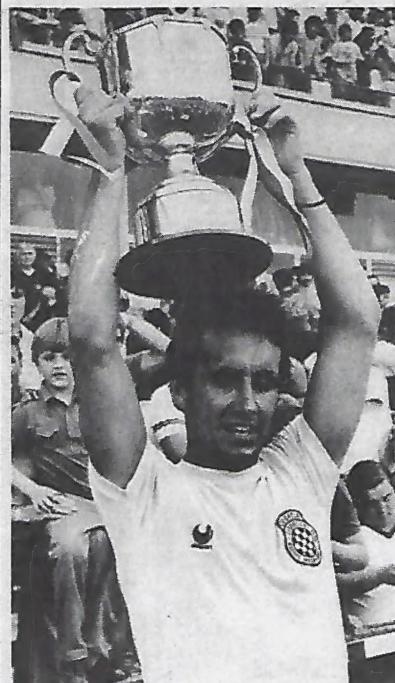
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Croatia captain Steve Short displays the State League Cup.

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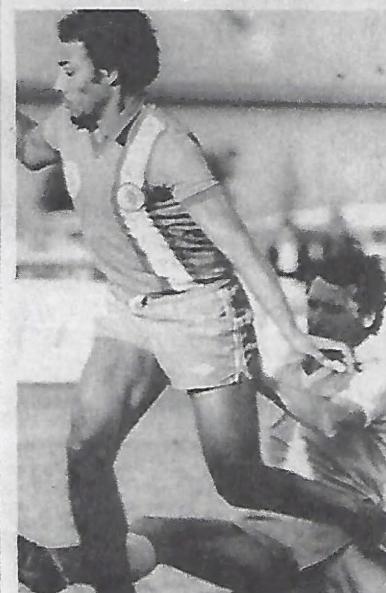
Your Hosts ROD and DRAGAN SREDOVIC



Newcastle Utd's Peter Tredinnick (right) is faced by four South Melbourne players, but keeps the ball. Opposing Tredinnick are (from left) Alun Evans, Duncan Cummings, Bertie Lutton and Mike Pye. The Newcastle youngster has a bright future in Australian soccer.



Sir Zelman Cowen, the Governor-General, was the guest of honor at the 1979 Rothmans Medal presentation dinner. Sir Zelman is pictured (left) congratulating the medal winner, Tommy Cumming of Essendon Croatia.



Brisbane Lions striker Tony Brennan took the Philips League by storm early this season. His goalscoring talents and bustling style earned the attention of national coach Rudi Gutendorf. Brennan is pictured above riding a tackle by Brisbane City's George Potter.



Matt Carson looks through his scrap book. Carson, who helped Brisbane Lions avoid relegation, was voted by the Press as Queensland's Coach of the Year.



Steve O'Connor, the Sydney City centre back who was unlucky to miss the Socceroos' trip to China, is pictured holding off South Melbourne's Alun Evans.



# 1979 IN



In Australian soccer, transfer fees of \$10,000 are described as highly inflated. However, English soccer was rocked when Trevor Francis (above) moved from Birmingham City to Nottingham Forest for around AS\$2m.



Iranian star Andrenik Eskandarian of Melbourne. Cumming is pictured slide



Powerful English club Liverpool may tour Australia in 1980. If the team visits this country, Jimmy Case (above) will be only one of many world class players on show.



"Look out, here I come," may be the cry of Bruce Young of Frankston City as he storms towards Mercon in City's final game.

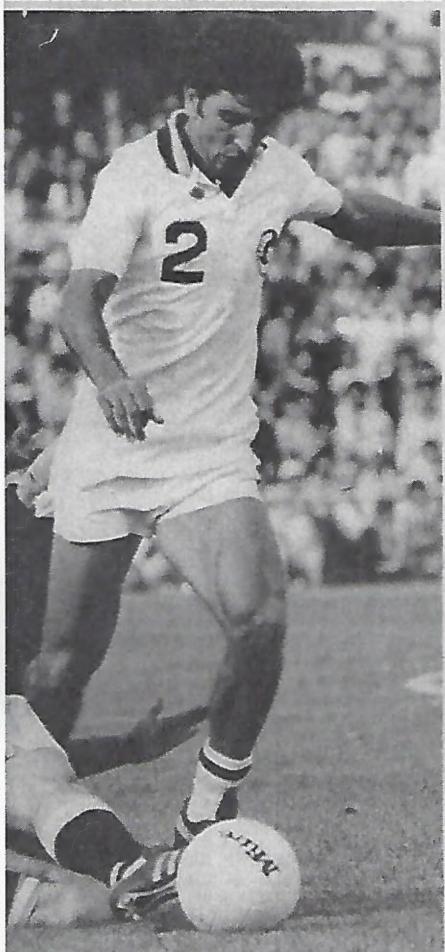


Howard Andrews of Essendon Croatia climbs above Frankston City's Bruce Young. These two teams battled it out for the Victorian honors in 1979.



LEFT: The Green Gully Ajax table at the Victorian Rothmans Medal dinner, from left: Billy Vojtek (player-coach), Guy Spiteri (president), Paul Azzopardi (committee) and midfielder Willie Vassallo.

# PICTURES



Tommy Cumming had a great duel in the Cosmos v. Victoria game in skilling the Cosmos star as he dribbles downfield. The Cosmos tour was the highlight of the season.



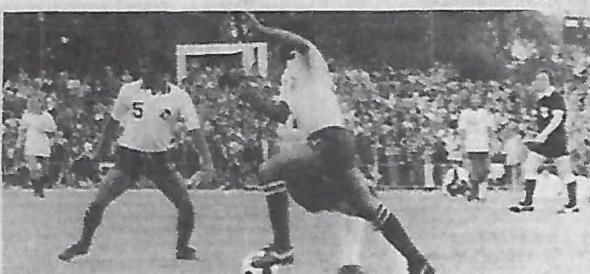
What does the future hold for Albion Rovers? The club was relegated from the Victorian State League this season, and already defender Steve Blair (third left) has left the club for South Melbourne. Others pictured are (from left) goalkeeper Bill Johnson, coach Bill McArthur, Blair, midfielder Mike O'Sylva, foundation member Alex McArthur and chairman Russell Wilson. The picture was taken at the Rothmans Medal presentation dinner.



The 1979 season will not be remembered for the great feats of the Australian national team. A few things became clearer, however. One was that Gary Cole of Heidelberg (above right) and Peter Sharne of Marconi (above left) will be the key players in the new Socceroo forward line.



Will Carl Gilder stay with Victorian club Essendon Croatia? It's been rumoured that he wants to play in the PSL. Gilder (right) is kept on earth in this picture in this picture by Croydon's Steve McCombe.



ABOVE: Nelsi Morias won the applause of local fans with some sound displays in the defence of the Cosmos team. He is pictured above (right) with Cosmos sweeper Carlos Alberto.

BELLOW — The smiling Bannon brothers: from left, Vince (Frankston City), Pat (Heidelberg Utd) and Ged (Frankston City) comprise the most successful family act in Victorian soccer.



ABOVE: Brothers Barry Kelso (left) of Brisbane Roberto Vieri (right). In the background is Echeverria.



Sunshine City's (Vic) Rob Nelson (No. 61) attempts to hook the ball away from a ruck of players only to be foiled by team mate Willie Leing. Altona City's Keith Murray is sandwiched between the two, and George Train watches on (right).



Steve Hogg of Canberra City (right) is challenged by Alan Hughes of Brisbane Lions. Hogg is one of the youngsters. Canberra City hopes will lead the club to success after three seasons near the bottom of the PSL ladder. Hughes, who played successfully in Hong Kong during the close season, was Lion's second top goalscorer in 1979.

LEFT: Penalty or not? Footscray's Joe Palimba crashes to the turf inside the penalty area under pressure from Newcastle's Col Curran. John Sheldren (left), Roy Drinkwater (partly hidden) and Arno Bertogno (right) look on. The referee is Tony Bešeković.



Derek Barron expresses his jubilation after scoring for George Cross. He is congratulated by Ron Cullen, now with Makedonia.



Tommy Cumming (right), does battle with Andranik Eskandarian of New York Cosmos.

## MEET VICTORIA'S BIONIC MEN

By PETER DESIRA

**Meet the bionic men of the Victorian State League! These nine players haven't missed a championship match in two seasons; a great achievement considering the physical strain of a rough and tumble league match.**

The 'supermen' are Tommy Cumming, Steve Kokoska, Ken Murphy (Essendon, Croatia), Ged Bannon (Frankston City), Derek Barron (George Cross) Les Denys, Peter Donaldson (Green Gully Ajax), Frank Thompson (Prahran Slavia) and Robbie Nelson (Sunshine City).

Below is a record of all league appearances and goalscorers for the 1979 State League season. The figures in brackets represent appearances as a substitute.

### ALBION ROVERS

22 Bill Johnson, Bobby Nisbet.  
20 Steve Blair, Mike D'Sylva.  
18 (2) Bill McCormack.  
17 (1) Bill McIntyre.  
16 (1) Alex Wark.  
15 (1) Kit Grechian.  
14 (1) Dave McNeil.  
13 (2) Frank McLeod.  
11 (1) Tony Gatt.  
11 (1) Joe Thompson.  
11 (1) Steve Williams.  
8 (3) Hugh Stewart.  
7 (1) Gordon Steven.  
5 (2) John Saitha.  
4 (1) Alastair Benham.  
2 (4) George Millar.  
2 (1) Paul Hyne.  
1 (1) David Stokes.  
1 Craig Nisbet.  
(1) Spiteri.  
Goals:  
7 McCormack.  
6 D'Sylva.  
3 McNeil.  
2 McIntyre.  
1 Grechian, Hyne, Reilly, Stewart, Wark.

### ALTONA CITY

22 Hans Van Der Poel  
21 (1) Harry Hird, Bob Taylor.  
20 Peter Lewis, Billy Whyte.  
20 Robin Craw.  
19 George Train.  
15 (1) Rob Gramsbergen.  
14 Stuart Cannell.  
13 (4) John Little.  
11 (4) George Watters.  
10 (1) Nat Little.  
10 Keith Murray.  
7 (6) Kevin Kelly.  
5 (5) Kevin Innes.  
3 (2) Bruno Cozzella.  
3 Terry Banagan, Richard Plessa.  
2 (1) Ray Buckley.  
1 Con Ignatides.  
(1) Sammy Deluca, Manny Gabin, Kevin Wilson.  
Goals: 6 Robin Craw, Bob Taylor.  
4 Peter Lewis.  
3 Billy Whyte.  
2 Kevin Innes, George Train.  
1 Ray Buckley, Rob Gramsbergen, Nat Little, George Watters.

Croatia's Steve Kokoska (right), wearing the colors of Victoria, battles for the ball with a player from the opposing team.

### CROYDON CITY

22 David Brogan, Gary Hobson, Steve McCombe, Alan Fenton, Jimmy Spinik.  
21 Duncan Smith.  
19 (1) Mick Edwards.  
19 (1) Joe Tront.  
18 (2) Jim Wyllie.  
13 (1) Peter Loughnane.  
9 (5) Charlie Murphy.  
9 Pat Lowrey.  
7 (1) Roy Hamilton.  
5 (4) Harry McKinlay.  
3 (4) Greg House.  
3 Paul Priestley, Mike Sinclair.  
2 Reg Morton.  
Goals: 9 - David Brogan.  
5 Joe Tront.  
1 Steve McCombe.  
3 Peter Loughnane, Jim Wyllie.

2 - Roy Hamilton.  
1 - Greg House, Pat Lowrey, Harry McKinlay, Duncan Smith, Jimmy Spinik. OG.

### ESSONDON CROATIA

22 Tommy Cumming, Con Gilder, Steve Kokoska, Ken Murphy.  
21 Steve Short.  
20 Peter Blasby.  
18 (1) Branko Culina, Keith Adams.  
17 (1) Grant Smart.  
16 (1) Ante Bilaver.  
15 (5) Howard Andrews.  
12 (1) John Gidman.  
6 (5) Peter Paleka.  
(+1) Alan Kerr.  
2 (2) Zeljko Loncar.  
2 (1) Drago Krajina.  
2 Miro Franjic.  
1 Ned Cotic.  
(2) Ned Batinovic.  
(1) Silvano Franin.  
Goals:  
14 Gilder.  
9 Cummings.  
7 Murphy, Culina.  
2 Gardiner, OG's.  
1 Andrews, Paleka.

### FRANKSTON CITY

22 Vince Bannon, Ged Bannon, Kevin Swinscoe.  
21 Frank Peterson.  
20 Barry McCluskey.  
19 Noel Mitten.  
18 (2) Bruce Young.  
18 Bob Adams, Tony Young.  
13 (1) Alan Parrott.  
12 (2) Willie Coulson.  
10 (1) Keith Webster.  
5 (5) Alec Tulloch.  
5 Martin Peters.  
4 (5) Norrie Campbell.  
4 (2) David Cooper.  
3 (1) Alan Bennett.  
3 (2) John Taylor.  
1 (1) David Gilbert.  
1 Sean Parton.  
(1) Goran Runcic.  
Goals:  
12 Swinscoe.  
10 Mitrea.  
5 Adams.  
3 Peters, Webster.  
2 E. Bannon, G. Bannon, N. Campbell.  
1 Cooper, Coulson, McCluskey, B. Young.

### GEORGE CROSS

22 Derek Barron, Gary Hooper, Norm Maitland.  
19 Tony Castielo.  
18 (1) Brian Thom, Jim Paparas.  
18 Suez Mattson.  
17 (1) Tony Cowan.  
15 (2) Phil Cutajar.  
12 (4) Dan Mizzi.

5 (6) Carlos Berbia.  
5 (5) Oscar Crino.  
5 Maurice Bonfieri, Terry Hawke.  
3 Jim Symington.  
1 (6) Tony Curcio.  
1 (1) Hugh Graham, Ken Mock.  
1 Lou Sannipoli.  
Goals:  
9 C. Lucchessi, McGuinness.  
6 Crino.  
5 Smith.  
3 Sabidussi.  
2 Gillan, J. Lucchessi.  
1 Della Rocca, Heery.

### PRAHRAN SLAVIA

22 Steve Aldridge, Frank Thompson, Jim Williams.  
20 (1) Jim Train.  
20 Glen Westley.  
18 (1) Brian Mohan.  
17 Steve Lawson.  
16 Billy Brindle, Alex McPherson.  
11 (1) John Cullen.  
9 (1) David Griffiths.  
6 (2) David Pye.  
6 (1) Paul Wade.  
6 Frank Neri.  
5 (1) Liam Houston.  
5 Jamie Palmer.  
4 (6) Tony Kinnear.  
4 (3) Tony Ward.  
4 John Yendorn.  
3 (2) Paul Cooke.  
3 (1) Cliff Whiteside.  
2 (1) Brian Tuft.  
1 (1) Mike McGorrian.  
(-1) Tony Heery.  
Goals:  
8 Monaghan.  
4 Paton.  
3 Aldridge, Griffiths.

### PRESTON MAKEDONIA

22 Steve Beech.  
21 Robert Cullen, Mike Rainey.  
20 (1) Gary Ward.  
20 David Garthwaite, John Higham, George McMillan, 19 (1) Gordon Flavel, Eric Lesbirel.  
18 (1) Ljube Petrovski.  
14 (5) Jeff Faulkner.  
13 (1) Lou Rastner.  
9 Gary Clayton.  
4 Ian Field.  
1 (3) Doug Masalkowski.  
1 (2) Tom Brewerton.  
(1) Stuart Cunningham, Mitko Saveski.  
Goals:  
15 Ward.  
10 McMillan.  
9 Cullen.  
2 Flavel.  
1 Beech, Faulkner, Petrovski, Tuffield.

### SUNSHINE CITY

22 Robbie Nelson.  
21 Mike Dixey, Nick Lowe.  
20 (1) Hugh Howe, 20 (1) David Nelson.  
19 (1) Frank Mussell.  
19 Steve Ellis, Peter Clarke.  
18 (3) Wilf Laing.  
13 (2) Gordon Doyle.  
12 (3) Stewart Gilmore.  
11 (3) Jim McRobert.  
10 (4) Mike Paisley.  
9 Dennis Morovic.  
5 (1) Andy Esposito.  
3 (1) Alan Contini.  
1 (1) Nif Christodoulas.  
1 Rick Szleste.  
(-2) John McNally.  
(-1) B. Coyle, David Singleton.  
Goals:  
5 Coyle, Gilmour, D. Nelson.  
4 R. Nelson.  
2 McRobert, Mussell.  
1 Iain Dailey.

# After 2nd title, Croatia may lose top men

The State League Cup final is the last official domestic fixture in Victoria, ending the nine-month long season.

Of course, competitive matches are played for 10 months of the year if practice games and end of season tours by overseas clubs are taken into consideration.

This is part two of a review of Victorian State League clubs, featuring Frankston City, Croydon City, Essendon Croatia, Preston Makedonia, Part one of the review focused on the clubs that hadn't qualified for the top four series.

Unfortunately, because of publication deadlines, the result of the State League Cup isn't included in this review, but full details of the match appear elsewhere in this issue.

## ESSENDON CROATIA

**Position finished:** 1st  
**1979 coaches:** Brian Edgley, Duje Zemunik, John Gardiner  
**Home ground:** Olympic Park  
**Years in State League:** 3  
**1979 honors:** League championship, Dockerty Cup  
**Last honor:** Dockerty Cup 1979

Essendon Croatia started the 1979 season with a severe hangover from the previous year. Success is hard to find, and harder to keep, as Croatia was to discover.

To refresh memories, Croatia won the 'treble' in 1978 – the league championship, Ampol Cup and State League Cup. The team reached the quarter-finals of the Philips Cup and then the finals of the Dockerty Cup.

At the beginning of this season, Croatia immediately had troubles with discontent players. Eddie Kruecic and Yakkia Banovic left to club for the national league, and Billy Vojtek, Dave Lesan, Alan Kerr and Brian Davidson for various reasons.

Ken Murphy and John Gardiner asked for transfers early in the season. Croatia performed poorly in the Ampol Cup, and lost by a goal's own standards, an average start to the championship.

At one stage, it looked as though Croatia would not win an honor in 1979, but then something clicked. Coach Brian Edgley succumbed to pressure and resigned, paving the way for a partnership between John Gardiner and Duje Zemunik to lead the team.

Gardiner, without doubt, is the key figure in Croatia's downfall in the State League in 1978-79. His return as a player and coach brought about a revival for Essendon.

Croatia pipped Frankston on a goal difference for the championship, and took the Dockerty Cup in another close decision. Gritty performances in the State League Cup took Croatia to the final, and set the team up for an amazing second treble.

The Essendon club now faces the problem of holding onto players like Tommy Cumming, Carl Gilder and Steve Kokoska, who would be most welcome in the Philips League.

Croatia could let them go, and rebuild the team with the money received – but this is highly unlikely. Croatia is thinking of entering the race for PSL membership, and so will try to hold all its players.

There are great problems facing the club in its bid for PSL status. Croatia hasn't a suitable home ground (Olympic Park can't be described as a 'home' ground), and will face pressure to change its name before its PSL application is taken seriously.

Meanwhile, the 1980 State League season will see another battle of 'Croatia v the rest' of the league. Essendon has already defeated the 'rest' in successive years, so why not a hat-trick?

## AMPOL CUP

0-0 v George Cross, lost 4-5 on pens  
 2-0 v Prahran Slavia (Carl Gilder, Tommy Cumming)

1-5 v Green Gully (Branco Culina)

2-0 v Albion Rovers (Cumming 2)

2-0 v Frankston City (Ken Murphy, Keith Adams)

## DOCKERTY CUP

5-0 v Williamstown (Gilder 3, Cumming 2)

3-1 v Ringwood City (Gilder 2, Murphy)

0-0 v Green Gully, won 4-3 on pens

4-2 v Preston Makedonia (Cumming 3, Murphy)

By KYLE PATTERSON

**FINAL:**  
 2-1 v Frankston City (Ned Batinovic 2)

**STATE LEAGUE**  
 0-1 v Albion Rovers  
 6-1 George Cross (Gilder 4, Culina, Murphy)

2-4 v Essendon Croatia (Ward, Petrovski)

3-0 v Croydon City (Culina, Murphy, Steve McCombe 2)

2-0 v Hakoah St Kilda (Gilder, Murphy)

2-1 v Altona City (Gilder, Murphy)

1-1 v Juventus (Gilder)

2-0 v Sunshine City (Gilder, Cumming)

1-1 v Green Gully (Cumming 2)

1-0 v Prahran Slavia (Howard Andrews)

1-2 v Preston Makedonia (Gilder)

2-2 v Frankston City (Cumming 2)

5-1 v Albion Rovers (Cumming 2, Murphy, Gilder)

0-1 v Frankston City

4-1 v George Cross (Culina 3, Gilder)

0-0 v Hakoah St Kilda

1-1 v Croydon City (Gilder, Murphy, Cummings)

0-0 v Preston Makedonia

3-1 v Altona City (Gilder, Murphy, Boris Paleka)

**STATE LEAGUE CUP**

0-2 v Preston Makedonia

2-0 v Frankston City (Batinovic, Gilder)

1-0 v Croydon City (Gilder)

**PRESTON MAKEDONIA**

**Position finished:** 3rd

**1979 coaches:** Tony Vrzina

**Home ground:** B.T. Connor Reserve

**Years in State League:** 4

**1979 honors:** nil

**Last honor:** First Division

**Championship:** 1975

Preston Makedonia's application for PSL membership met the same fate as the club's senior team – it just missed out.

The near misses of 1979 will stay with Preston for a long while, because this season could have seen the club become a giant. Preston could have won the Dockerty Cup and could have become a PSL club in 1980.

Preston's only consolation was a place in the State League Cup final, a small reward from a season that promised so much.

The failure of Preston's PSL application is a bazy story. Rumours led us to believe that Preston would have been elected to the national competition in place of South Melbourne if it had been willing to build a temporary grandstand at its ground.

Many people at Frankston are bitter because the team failed to win a trophy, putting blame on the players or former coach Bunce. However, I don't believe this is fair.

The players did have the desire to succeed, but what club doesn't have that? The State League Cup has been the best of the best administrations in the league, and is without a doubt, the best equipped first-year club to come into the State League in the last 10 years.

Croydon City perhaps a valuable lesson from Albion Rovers. Albion won promotion in 1977 with a moderate team, and then started to recruit heavily once in the State League in 1978. The recruiting was costly and contributed to Albion getting into financial difficulties, losing many players on free transfers and precipitated the club's relegation in 1979.

The Croydon club was shrewd enough to build a State League standard team in 1978, when still in the First Division. Top players like Joe Iron, Pat Lowrey, Alan Pongio, Steve McCombe, Jimmy Spink and Duncan Smith were brought to the club in 1978, and subsequently formed the basis of the 1979 team.

Before this season, Frankston was just another State League club. Now, because of the efforts of the players and coach Freddy Bunce, Frankston is on the map.

I'm sure many people at Frankston will be saying: "We had Martin Peters and Eamon Bannon, and bought seven other players. We should have done better."

Wrong. Money is vital to a soccer team, but you can't buy success.

**AMPOL CUP**

0-1 v Prahran Slavia

4-0 v Albion Rovers (Ged Bannon 2, Noel Merten 2)

3-2 v George Cross (Mitten 2, Noel Merten 2)

3-2 v Green Gully (Kevin Swinscoe, Keith Webster, Mitten)

0-2 v Essendon Croatia

**DOCKERTY CUP**

5-1 v Park Rangers (Mitten 2, Swinscoe, Bob Adams, Danny McCluskey)

4-3 v Sunshine City (Mitten 2, Swinscoe, Adams)

3-2 v Croydon City (Swinscoe, Mitten, Norrie Campbell)

2-0 v Prahran Slavia (Mitten, Swinscoe)

**FINAL**

1-2 v Essendon Croatia (Mitten)

**STATE LEAGUE**

2-1 v Juventus (Webster, McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**SUNSHINE CITY**

2-1 v Juventus (Webster, McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

1-0 v Sunshine City (McMillan 2, Murphy)

5-6 v Juventus (McMillan 2,

McCluskey)

**1979 honors:** League

championship, Dockerty Cup

# 1979 VICTORIAN STANDINGS

## STATE LEAGUE

|                   | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | P  |
|-------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Essendon Croatia  | 22 | 12 | 6 | 4  | 43 | 18 | 30 |
| Frankston City    | 22 | 12 | 6 | 4  | 43 | 27 | 30 |
| Preston Macedonia | 22 | 12 | 5 | 5  | 40 | 19 | 29 |
| Croydon City      | 22 | 10 | 6 | 8  | 32 | 27 | 26 |
| Juventus          | 22 | 10 | 4 | 8  | 35 | 36 | 24 |
| Altona City       | 22 | 7  | 7 | 8  | 27 | 28 | 21 |
| George Cross      | 22 | 7  | 7 | 8  | 29 | 41 | 21 |
| St. Kilda Hakoah  | 22 | 8  | 8 | 8  | 23 | 26 | 20 |
| Sunshine City     | 22 | 6  | 7 | 9  | 25 | 35 | 19 |
| Green Gully       | 22 | 5  | 6 | 11 | 20 | 34 | 16 |
| Prahran Slavia    | 22 | 5  | 4 | 13 | 18 | 29 | 14 |
| Albion Leyland    | 22 | 4  | 6 | 12 | 23 | 41 | 14 |

## STATE LEAGUE - RESERVES

|                    | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | P  |
|--------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| + Frankston City   | 22 | 15 | 2 | 5  | 39 | 15 | 32 |
| + Essendon Croatia | 22 | 14 | 4 | 4  | 35 | 15 | 32 |
| Juventus           | 22 | 10 | 6 | 8  | 28 | 20 | 26 |
| Sunshine City      | 22 | 9  | 6 | 7  | 28 | 21 | 24 |
| Green Gully        | 22 | 8  | 7 | 7  | 20 | 25 | 23 |
| Altona City        | 22 | 8  | 6 | 8  | 17 | 26 | 22 |
| Prahran Slavia     | 22 | 9  | 3 | 10 | 31 | 24 | 21 |
| St. Kilda Hakoah   | 22 | 8  | 5 | 9  | 23 | 27 | 21 |
| Croydon City       | 22 | 6  | 6 | 10 | 28 | 36 | 18 |
| Preston Macedonia  | 22 | 6  | 6 | 10 | 21 | 32 | 18 |
| Albion Leyland     | 22 | 7  | 3 | 12 | 22 | 28 | 17 |
| George Cross       | 22 | 2  | 6 | 14 | 15 | 40 | 10 |
| + Joint winners    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |

## DIVISION: 1 METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

|                  | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | P  |
|------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Western Suburbs  | 22 | 14 | 5 | 3  | 36 | 17 | 33 |
| Maribyrnong      | 22 | 11 | 7 | 4  | 39 | 19 | 29 |
| Collingwood City | 22 | 10 | 8 | 4  | 42 | 25 | 28 |
| Ringwood City    | 22 | 12 | 4 | 6  | 42 | 27 | 28 |
| Doveton          | 22 | 7  | 8 | 7  | 28 | 25 | 22 |
| Springvale City  | 22 | 7  | 7 | 8  | 23 | 26 | 21 |
| Box Hill         | 22 | 8  | 5 | 9  | 27 | 32 | 21 |
| Dandenong City   | 22 | 8  | 3 | 11 | 27 | 32 | 19 |
| Keilor City      | 22 | 8  | 3 | 11 | 29 | 38 | 19 |
| Moreland         | 22 | 6  | 6 | 10 | 19 | 38 | 18 |
| Melbourne        | 22 | 5  | 7 | 10 | 26 | 29 | 17 |
| Ardeer           | 22 | 1  | 7 | 14 | 15 | 45 | 9  |

## DIVISION: 1 METROPOLITAN LEAGUE RESERVES

|                  | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | P  |
|------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Box Hill         | 22 | 16 | 4 | 2  | 47 | 24 | 36 |
| Melbourne        | 22 | 14 | 4 | 51 | 21 | 32 |    |
| Ringwood City    | 22 | 12 | 8 | 2  | 39 | 17 | 32 |
| Ardeer           | 22 | 10 | 9 | 3  | 39 | 23 |    |
| Springvale City  | 22 | 8  | 8 | 6  | 39 | 27 | 24 |
| Maribyrnong      | 22 | 8  | 8 | 6  | 31 | 29 |    |
| Doveton          | 22 | 6  | 4 | 12 | 22 | 35 | 16 |
| Moreland         | 22 | 6  | 3 | 13 | 24 | 34 | 15 |
| Keilor City      | 22 | 4  | 6 | 12 | 25 | 46 | 14 |
| Collingwood City | 22 | 4  | 6 | 12 | 18 | 44 | 14 |
| Dandenong City   | 22 | 1  | 4 | 17 | 22 | 62 | 6  |

## DIVISION: II METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

|                  | P  | W  | D  | L  | F   | A  | P  |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|
| Keilor           | 22 | 13 | 4  | 5  | 45  | 27 | 30 |
| Richmond         | 22 | 13 | 3  | 6  | 51  | 24 | 29 |
| Port Melbourne   | 22 | 9  | 10 | 3  | 37  | 29 | 28 |
| Doncaster Rovers | 22 | 10 | 7  | 5  | 45  | 32 | 27 |
| Knox City        | 22 | 7  | 11 | 4  | 32  | 25 |    |
| South Melbourne  | 22 | 9  | 7  | 6  | 36  | 34 | 25 |
| Waverley City    | 22 | 10 | 4  | 8  | 36  | 39 | 24 |
| Fitzroy United   | 22 | 9  | 2  | 11 | 30  | 34 | 20 |
| Footscray        | 22 | 5  | 8  | 9  | 31  | 35 | 18 |
| Bell Park        | 22 | 8  | 1  | 13 | 26  | 36 | 17 |
| Ferntree Gully   | 22 | 3  | 6  | 13 | 23  | 39 | 12 |
| St. Albans       | 22 | 2  | 5  | 15 | -18 | 56 | 9  |

## DIVISION: II METROPOLITAN LEAGUE RESERVES

|                  | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | P  |
|------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Keilor           | 22 | 14 | 3 | 5  | 54 | 29 | 31 |
| Richmond         | 22 | 13 | 3 | 6  | 51 | 24 | 29 |
| Doncaster Rovers | 22 | 11 | 7 | 4  | 46 | 26 | 29 |
| Knox City        | 22 | 12 | 2 | 8  | 38 | 29 | 28 |
| St. Albans       | 22 | 12 | 4 | 6  | 31 | 24 | 28 |
| South Melbourne  | 22 | 9  | 6 | 7  | 41 | 26 | 24 |
| Waverley City    | 22 | 9  | 3 | 10 | 27 | 30 | 21 |
| Ferntree Gully   | 22 | 5  | 6 | 11 | 25 | 33 | 16 |
| Bell Park        | 22 | 5  | 6 | 11 | 29 | 47 | 16 |
| Footscray        | 22 | 5  | 5 | 12 | 18 | 34 | 15 |
| Fitzroy United   | 22 | 5  | 4 | 13 | 28 | 44 | 14 |
| Port Melbourne   | 22 | 3  | 5 | 14 | 18 | 55 | 11 |

## DIVISION: III METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

|                   | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | P  |
|-------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Park Rangers      | 22 | 17 | 3 | 2  | 63 | 22 | 37 |
| Morwell Falcons   | 22 | 15 | 3 | 4  | 51 | 20 | 33 |
| Fawkner           | 22 | 12 | 4 | 6  | 46 | 27 | 28 |
| Coburg            | 22 | 9  | 6 | 7  | 42 | 39 | 24 |
| Broadmeadows City | 22 | 9  | 5 | 8  | 35 | 37 | 23 |
| Etham             | 22 | 9  | 4 | 9  | 40 | 47 | 22 |
| Yallourn          | 22 | 8  | 6 | 8  | 40 | 39 | 22 |
| Chelsea           | 22 | 7  | 6 | 9  | 35 | 43 | 20 |
| Prahran City      | 22 | 7  | 2 | 13 | 27 | 36 | 16 |
| Heidelberg        | 22 | 4  | 7 | 11 | 25 | 40 | 15 |
| Brighton          | 22 | 4  | 7 | 11 | 22 | 44 | 15 |
| Mooroolbark       | 22 | 3  | 3 | 16 | 26 | 58 | 9  |

## DIVISION: III METROPOLITAN LEAGUE RESERVES

|                   | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | P  |
|-------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Fawkner           | 22 | 16 | 5 | 1  | 77 | 22 | 37 |
| Coburg            | 22 | 12 | 5 | 5  | 48 | 25 | 29 |
| Yallourn          | 22 | 12 | 5 | 5  | 50 | 42 | 29 |
| Morwell Falcons   | 22 | 11 | 6 | 6  | 61 | 41 | 28 |
| Etham             | 22 | 10 | 6 | 6  | 43 | 37 | 26 |
| Heidelberg        | 22 | 8  | 9 | 5  | 35 | 27 | 25 |
| Prahran City      | 22 | 8  | 6 | 8  | 48 | 44 | 22 |
| Brighton          | 22 | 10 | 1 | 11 | 52 | 54 | 21 |
| Park Rangers      | 22 | 6  | 4 | 12 | 27 | 40 | 16 |
| Broadmeadows City | 22 | 5  | 4 | 13 | 35 | 53 | 14 |
| Mooroolbark       | 22 | 3  | 3 | 16 | 22 | 54 | 9  |
| Brighton          | 22 | 2  | 4 | 16 | 14 | 73 | 8  |

## DIVISION: IV METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

|                   | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | P  |
|-------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Frankston Pines   | 22 | 15 | 5 | 2  | 65 | 17 | 35 |
| Ringwood United   | 22 | 15 | 4 | 3  | 49 | 25 | 34 |
| Sandringham City  | 22 | 13 | 5 | 4  | 42 | 23 | 31 |
| Werribee          | 22 | 11 | 7 | 4  | 39 | 21 | 29 |
| Mornington        | 22 | 9  | 5 | 8  | 35 | 35 | 23 |
| Monash University | 22 | 8  | 3 | 11 | 34 | 32 | 19 |
| Moorabbin City    | 22 | 9  | 0 | 13 | 31 | 37 | 18 |
| Caulfield City    | 22 | 7  | 4 | 11 | 37 | 51 | 18 |
| Corio             | 22 | 6  | 5 | 11 | 29 | 35 | 17 |
| Keysborough       | 22 | 7  | 3 | 12 | 29 | 41 | 17 |
| Essendon City     | 22 | 5  | 5 | 12 | 22 | 50 | 15 |
| Clayton           | 22 | 3  | 2 | 17 | 16 | 81 | 8  |

## DIVISION: IV METROPOLITAN LEAGUE RESERVE

|                   | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | P  |
|-------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| Frankston Pines   | 22 | 17 | 1 | 4  | 75 | 18 | 35 |
| Ringwood United   | 22 | 16 | 3 | 3  | 65 | 14 | 35 |
| Monash University | 22 | 14 | 3 | 5  | 64 | 34 | 31 |
| Sandringham City  | 22 | 11 | 6 | 5  | 64 | 30 | 28 |
| Werribee          | 22 | 12 | 4 | 6  | 51 | 32 | 28 |
| Mooreabbin City   | 22 | 12 | 2 | 8  | 46 | 31 | 26 |
| Keysborough       | 22 | 7  | 5 | 10 | 34 | 47 | 19 |
| Mornington        | 22 | 4  | 6 | 12 | 27 | 53 | 14 |
| Corio             | 22 | 5  | 5 | 8  | 33 | 50 | 13 |
| Clayton           | 22 | 3  | 7 | 12 | 30 | 56 | 13 |
| Caulfield City    | 22 | 5  | 2 | 15 | 27 | 95 | 12 |
| Essendon City     | 22 | 3  | 4 | 15 | 20 | 78 | 10 |
| Altona City       | 22 | 3  | 4 | 15 | 20 | 78 | 10 |

## DIVISION: I PROVISIONAL LEAGUE

|                 | P  | W  | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|-----------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|
| Nunawading City | 22 | 16 | 1 | 5 | 51 | 28 | 33 |
| North Dandenong | 22 | 1  |   |   |    |    |    |

  
Dave Maclarens  
Rudi Gutendorf  
Jack Reilly  
Len McKendry

# QUOTES OF THE YEAR

Some controversial and colorful stories have appeared in 'Soccer Action' this year. Here is a selection of quotes which captured the interest of readers throughout the season.

"South Melbourne acted in good faith, and if there was any difficulty with his clearance, one would think that we would have been told soon after he (Tony Turner) joined us, not at this late stage." — DAVE MACLAREN, then manager of South Melbourne. Good faith or not, Souths lost three points and slumped to the bottom of the ladder after the Tony Turner affair.

"Hednesford happened to sign a goalkeeper who played with Ringwood City in Melbourne. Hednesford talked to the English FA and discovered they needed an international clearance . . . then they thought of me (Turner) in Australia, and that's how the whole thing blew up." — TONY TURNER explaining how the English FA 'blew the whistle' on South Melbourne.

"I've long been an embarrassment to Maclarens because he thought I was a threat to him . . . before the season started I told him face to face that he was a very good manager, but had short comings as a coach." — JACK REILLY, the goalkeeper 'sacked' by Maclarens. The Turner affair and Reilly's dismissal led to Maclarens resigning as South Melbourne manager.

"I'd have to go first, and I have no intention of going. Maclarens has my confidence and that of my committee." — SAM PAPASAVAS, South Melbourne president. He declared his support for Maclarens, but it was of little use as pressure mounted against South's leaders.

"It was a waste of time coaching under the circumstances. I was sick of all the rumours, and was quite happy when it came to a head. The club has been in a mess all year, and there's no way the problems can be solved quickly." — DUNCAN MCKAY, the former South Melbourne coach. McKay, who replaced Maclarens, and was replaced by John Margaritis, delivered this blast after being forced to resign.

"I can't see much hope down there. I want to go and play some good football." — ALUN EVANS, who demanded a transfer from South Melbourne, but later relented and stayed.

"There were some nasty clashes at training between players — including Craig Hall and Ian Rowden, and Rudi Gutendorf, the coach . . . the players complained of the heavy training schedule and strict discipline." — PEDRO BLANCA, 'Soccer Action's' South American correspondent, who covered the Australian under 19 team's tour of Paraguay. The tour certainly was controversial and the young "Roos" bombed out.

"At the moment, the players' fitness is far from good enough. Some are still slightly overweight, and that's catastrophic to put it mildly." — RUDI GUTENDORF, national coach. Gutendorf claimed players were unfit after an Australian XI was outplayed by a local Yugoslav selection.

"Club coaches will do their best to help Gutendorf . . . but it's disturbing when he (Gutendorf) rushes into print without consulting us first." —

GERRY CHALDI, coach of Sydney City. Chaldi was most upset by Gutendorf's claims of lack of fitness among players.

"By the last game, everyone was half dead. I couldn't move, but still Rudi shouted at me to put more effort in. It was torture . . ." — ALAN DAVIDSON, Australian youth international. He was commenting on a youth team training session, during which the squad played three full games in one day.

"I saw Rampanti go off the field for no apparent reason; it was not because of anything he was told by his coach, or the referee or team mates. It was an insult to me as national coach to sit in the stands and watch a star import setting such a bad example . . . I insist his behavior be investigated." — RUDI GUTENDORF, commenting on the alleged 'walk off' by APIA midfielder Rosario Rampanti in Canberra.

"There was nothing unusual. Rampanti was injured . . . anyway, what right has Gutendorf to judge on such a matter?" — NICK PAPALO, APIA president.

"Coaching is about making players better, but many senior coaches, even at high-standard club level, don't know the basics." — LEN MCKENDRY, Victorian State coach. This comment caused a stir among many leading PSL and State League coaches.

"Teams should be selected on form. The in-form players deserve to be included (in the Victorian team), but at present they haven't got a chance." — BRANKO BULJIEVIC, the Heidelberg Utd striker. His comments reflected many players' frustrations at the Victorian team being a 'closed shop'.

"Many great players have passed through the ranks at St. George and, to be honest, some bad mistakes were made in letting some of these players leave." — MANFRED SHAEFER, the former St. George great. Manfred hit the nail on the head, for St. George struggled to avoid relegation while Mark Jankovic, the former St. George player, was top goalscorer in the PSL.

"Dave tended to be friends with some players but didn't want to have much to do with the rest. He treated them as soccer players who were there to do something for him, and bugger everything else." — MURRAY BARNES, Sydney City's international midfielder. Barnes made these biting comments about Dave Maclarens, his former coach at Sydney City.

"I told him the figure (that Australian players were earning for the 1974 World Cup) and he (Gerd Mueller) was quite shocked. He told me he earned that much for each day during the World Cup." — MANFRED SHAEFER, recalling his on-field discussions with West Germany's top forward during the World Cup finals in 1974.

"Adam had a way with the players at West Adelaide. You could feel it just prior to the game when Jim would go around to each player and have a quick word. The team would come together and an incredible spirit was created." — PETER BOYLE, the West Adelaide midfielder. Jim Adam's magic touch lifted Wests to the championship in 1978, but at APIA in 1979 he didn't have the same luck.

"The VSF is protecting the trans-

By Kyle Patterson

fer system and its own finances at the expense of clubs, which have their hands tied behind their backs."

RUSSELL WILSON, president of Victorian club Albion Rovers. Wilson reckoned that in order to avoid legal hassles with players challenging the transfer system, the VSF would make it easy for them to leave their clubs. Wilson deplored this attitude.

"You can't cover incompetence with fitness . . . Sunshine hasn't been winning games because it has a mediocre team, not because the players aren't fit." — BILL WALSH, former Sunshine City coach. Walsh resigned after a delegation of players complained to the club's committee that the team lacked fitness.

"A lot of these so-called experienced players who are bought by clubs, are money hungry and disloyal. They're not really interested in playing for the club, just making as much money as possible." — JOHNNY SANCHEZ, the former George Cross and Slavia star. Sanchez spoke his mind as more and more clubs went into debt trying to meet the weekly wage bill of players.

"When a player takes money raised by hard-working committee members and supporters, it doesn't matter a scrap, if he's part-time or not. He must repay those people by playing at his best, keeping his body in good condition and accepting the decisions of the coach." — BRIAN EDGLEY, former coach of Essendon Croatia. Edgley faced the problem of having an unsettled squad, and eventually resigned.

"I had the Croatia (coaching) position if I wanted it, but I'm happy with Altona. Anyone would be tempted to join the league champion, but I'm much better off where I am." — JOE WILSON, former coach of Altona City. Maybe Joe regrets that decision after Croatia won the league championship and the Dockerty Cup.

"We will not allow the conflict between the Macedonian and the British players to continue. A team needs harmony both on and off the field, and Preston must get rid of the problem or the club will waste another year." — TONY VRZINA, manager of Preston Makedonia. Vrzina didn't publicly name the players involved, but soon after midfielder John Bernard was placed on the transfer list.

"Any coach who doesn't want advice from a man like myself, with more experience than most coaches around, is obviously off his head." — JOHN van HOBOKEN Sen., the Ringwood City president. The outspoken van Hoboken shares a view held by many club administrators, that interference can only benefit a coach.

"If Joe Picioane wants to play in World Cup games, that's the way he'll have to play." — Victorian State coach LEN MCKENDRY. Picioane was instructed to play defensively while the national coach was instructing even his defenders to attack.

"Tommy Cumming is getting protection from referees because he is an international player. His reputation in Victoria seems to overawe the referees." — BILL McARTHUR, coach of Albion Rovers. Protection or no protection. Cumming won his

second Rothmans Medal (decided on referees' votes) to add to his two Bill Fleming Medals for the best and fairest Victorian State League player.

"I was sick of the strain and interference. I knew the club was hunting for my head, and I was tempted to quite before now. But I made up my mind to quit after the game (against Frankston) regardless of the result."

— BRIAN EDGLEY, speaking after his resignation as coach of Essendon Croatia.

"All the players should apologise to the public for the performance at Wentworth Park. It was just about quite before now. But I made up my mind to quit after the game (against Frankston) regardless of the result."

"The PSL is rapidly losing all credibility. No one can believe anything anymore. The league is clearly unstable, badly organised and unprogressive . . ." — TONY VRZINA, manager/coach of Preston Makedonia. He delivered this blast before the stunning Olympic relegation decision, which further dented the credibility of the PSL and the ASF.

"We have had the same coaches in Melbourne for too long. It's about time a few ex-players were given a go to inject some new blood into local soccer." — RAY POOCOCK, who in his first season as a coach lifted Western Suburbs to the top of the Victorian First Division and won the club a place in the State League for 1980.

"The behavior of the Preston supporters was disgusting. If that's how they react when the team draws, I'd hate to see what happens when they lose." — a Croydon City official, who hit out after a crowd disturbance after the Croydon City v. Preston Makedonia game.

"Are we afraid of New Zealand, or was national coach Rudi Gutendorf reported incorrectly when he told journalists in Newcastle that results do not matter, as long as the Socceroos get as many games as possible against top opposition?" — RALE BASIC, former national coach Gutendorf for backing out of a return game against New Zealand after a 0-1 loss in Auckland during 1979.

"Quite obviously we've (New Zealand) got a good team, and if we beat Australia again, I think coach Rudi Gutendorf would be looking for a new job." — CHARLIE DEMPSEY, the tours director of the New Zealand FA. His jibes towards Gutendorf summed up New Zealand feelings towards Australia over the reluctance to play a return game.

"Playing for Australia against Czechoslovakia, England and Scotland next year is a great temptation, but I can't feed my family by playing for the national team." — STUART BAXTER, former South Melbourne defender. Baxter had a choice of touring China with the Socceroos and perhaps going on to play in the World Cup finals, or accepting a lucrative contract in Sweden. Much to the disappointment of Rudi Gutendorf, Baxter decided to leave.

"There's not a defender in the PSL who can catch me. I know I'm not one of the greatest dribblers ever seen, but then again I don't try to beat two and three men at a time. I can knock a ball past a defender, and there's no way he'll recover." — GARY COLE, the highly-confident striker of Heidelberg Utd. Cole had good reason to boast as he had another excellent season, being the spearhead of Heidelberg, Victoria and Australia. He's the all-time top goalscorer of the PSL.

"The reason we didn't sign Shaya Feigenbaum was the harsh treatment he received in the games he played for Hakoah (St. Kilda). Hakoah doesn't want to see a top class player wiped out by butchers who call themselves defenders." — DENNIS KRONGOLD, chairman of Hakoah Melbourne. Feigenbaum, the Israeli international, had a short stay in Australia soccer.

"One of my favourite quotes of 1979 unfortunately didn't make it into print. Of course, many quotes don't make it into print because they are libellous, but this one is worth considering:

"Players make coaches look silly. A coach can spend hours telling and showing a player what he wants on the field. Then, after a couple of minutes in a game, the player will forget what he has been told and shown. People watching the game see this, but say: 'The coach must be a fool for having his team play like that.' — BILL VOJTEK, coach of Green Gully who began his coaching career in 1979, and discovered it's no easy job.

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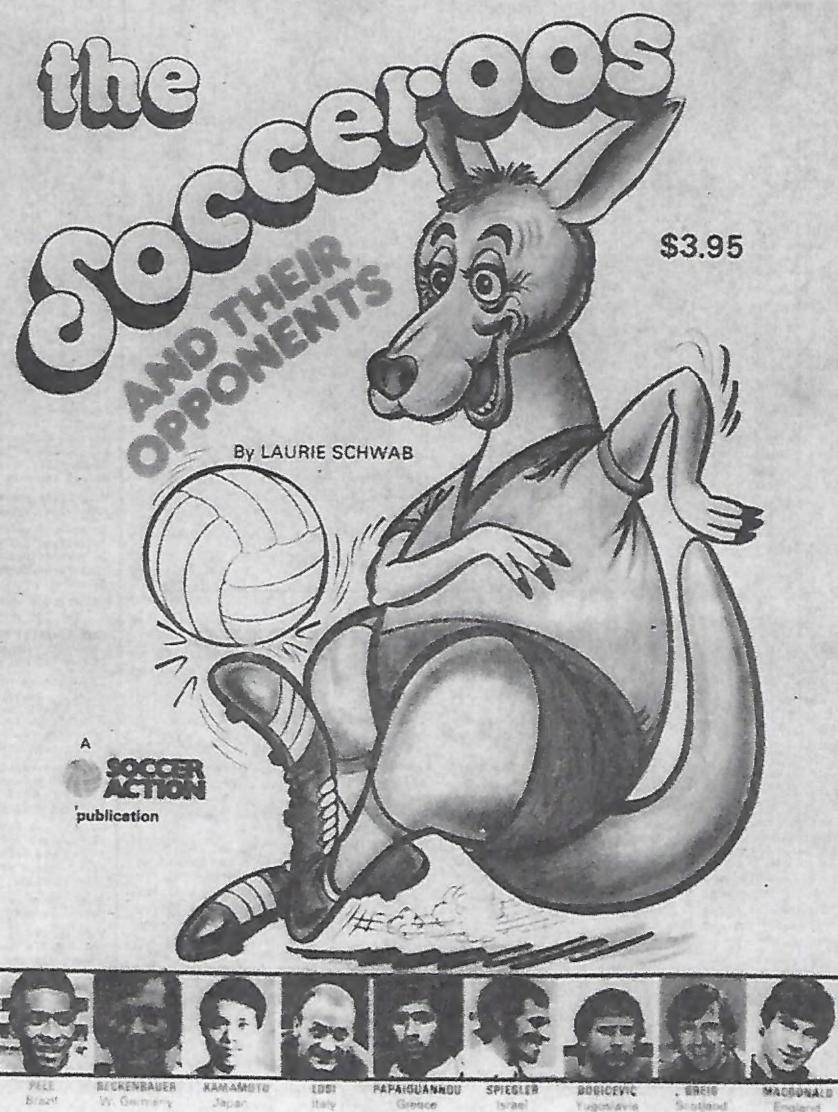
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